Law Commission.

12. I shall now turn to certain matters relating to the internal administration of the State. It is partly as a result of our commitments under the Harbour Agreement and partly with a view to make our laws up-to-date that the Law Commission was appointed sometime back. I am now glad to inform you that the Commission has practically completed its work. The scrutiny of the Statute Laws of the State by the Law Commission showed that in spite of the brisk legislative activity a very large number of enactments of the State need revision, and further that there were wide legislative gaps in certain fields of law. The activity of the Law Commission ranged over a very wide field but attention was concentrated particularly on maritime, mercantile, commercial, labour and criminal legislation in view of their application to the Port area. Where the amendments to the existing enactments were found to be numerous and far-reaching, they are being revised by consolidating and amending enactments, while in other cases the existing enactments are merely amended. The Law Commissioner submitted altogether 85 drafts. Of these the enactments of 60 drafts have been approved by Government. 22 of the drafts proposed by the Commissioner were found to be related to personal law and it was thought advisable to enact them as occasions arose through the usual procedure of being passed through the Legislative Council. 3 drafts proposed by the Law Commissioner relating to the Merchant Shipping Act, Air Craft and Carriage by Air, involved an amount of technical and special knowledge, and are therefore pending the consideration of Government. All the enactments of the State have been consolidated by the incorporation of the amendments in their appropriate places and the addition of foot-notes explaining them. It is proposed to issue the entire Statute law of the State in five handy volumes which will be available to the public before long. In addition to the publication of the Statute law, the work of consolidating the rules and notifications issued under the various enactments is engaging the attention of the Law Commission, and it is proposed to issue these rules as companion volumes shortly. It will thus be seen that before long the entire Statute law of the State would have been brought up-to-date, the legislative lacuna would have been filled up and copies of all the enactments available to the public in a handy form.

Land Mortgage Bank.

13. I shall now turn my attention to certain schemes of amelioration and development. The two ameliorative measures

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